

A PTB (patella tendon bearing) prosthesis is designed around the principles that there are pressure tolerant (soft) and pressure sensitive (boney) areas of your residual limb (refer to the diagrams on the next page). This style of prosthesis is used for a below the knee (transtibial) amputation. It consists of a foam liner as well as a hard outer socket with pylon and foot attachment. It will usually suspend from your limb via supra-condylar suspension (holds on above the knee on the inside of the leg), a suspension sleeve (a sleeve that attaches to the socket and rolls up onto your thigh), or waist belt and fork strap (the waist belt attaches to a fork strap secured to the prosthesis). This prosthesis should only be used by the person for whom it was prescribed and custom fabricated for, and only according to physician recommendation.

APPLICATION

1. While sitting, apply the appropriate number of socks or sheaths on your residual limb. Always start with the sheath first then apply the socks. Be sure to apply the socks one at a time, smoothing out all the wrinkles in the process.
2. Next pull on the foam liner. Make sure your leg is all the way inside and that there isn't any looseness in the fit. If there is, remove the liner and apply another sock.
3. Once the liner fits appropriately snug, pull up the sock or sheath on the outside of the foam liner. This will allow you to be able to get it back out of the socket when you are ready to take it off.
4. Put your leg with the socks and liner on it, into the prosthetic socket. Gently push down. Make sure it is fully seated inside.
5. If you have a supra-condylar system, the prosthesis is now fully donned.

6. If you have a suspension sleeve, now is the time to roll it all the way up your leg. Be sure not to pull it from the top, rather roll it along the skin for the best fit and to reduce the chance of developing blisters from the top edge.
7. If you have a waist belt and fork strap- secure the waist belt around your waist, then connect it to the fork strap on the prosthesis.

VOLUME ADJUSTABILITY

This system is dependent on the correct ply of socks for a proper fit. See the BK Troubleshooting document for tips on when to know to add or remove a sock. If your volume has reduced, your Prosthetist may be able to make adjustments to your foam liner to improve the fit and comfort of your prosthesis.

CLEANING INSTRUCTIONS

- Socks should be cleaned on a regular basis. Unless you have been instructed that you have wool socks, you may machine wash your prosthetic socks. It is best to wash them on a gentle or permanent press cycle. Do not use hot water and do not put in the dryer as it may cause your socks to shrink.
- To clean the foam liner- Wipe with a damp cloth or rubbing alcohol. Do not submerge in water as this may cause the glue holding the liner together, to begin to separate over time.
- To clean the suspension sleeve- roll it down so the gel is facing outwards. Wipe with soap and water on a cloth. Make sure all soap residue is washed off. Pat dry with a towel.
- To clean the socket, just wipe with a damp cloth

It is important to schedule follow-up appointments with your Prosthetist for regular maintenance of your prosthesis as well as to verify the fit and function is appropriate for your current needs.

PLEASE CALL YOUR NEAREST WCBL REGARDING ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS.

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